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slides and will be phrased in non-technical language. They are free to the public and all who are interested in astronomy are cordially invited to attend.

Four additional lectures are scheduled for the evenings of December 16, 1921, January 13, 1922, February 17, 1922, and March 17, 1922. Announcement of the speakers and their subjects will be made later. THE LECTURE COMMITTEE.

NOTES FROM PACIFIC COAST OBSERVATORIES

THE TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE OF SEPTEMBER 21, 1922

The shadow path in this eclipse will cross the following possible points of observation:

1. *Maldive Islands*, Indian Ocean. Longitude 73° E, latitude 3° N. Duration of total phase 4^m10^s. Sun's altitude 34°. The chances for clear sky are said to be good, but the prevailing winds are reported heavy. An observing station would be practically at sea level. There are no scheduled steamers running to the Maldive Islands.

2. *Christmas Island*, Indian Ocean. Approximately two hundred miles directly south of the extreme west end of Java. Duration approximately 3^m40^s. The Sun will be 12° north of the zenith. This island is only a short distance within the northern edge of the shadow path and about 50 statute miles from the central line of the shadow. The climate is tropical, but the chances for clear sky are reported to be moderately good. The British Joint Eclipse Committee will send an expedition to Christmas Island. The observers plan to arrive several months in advance of the eclipse date, to obtain night photographs of the sky needed in connection with the Einstein problem.

3. *Ninety Mile Beach*, northwest Australia. The central line of the shadow path enters Australia close to the combined telegraph and post station of Wollal. Duration $5^m 18^s$. Sun's altitude 58°. This region of Australia is excessively dry. The average rainfall for August, September and October does not exceed 0.06 inches monthly. The percentage of cloudiness is low in September and the winds light. An observing station at Wollal would seem to have decided advantages as to weather conditions and duration of

totality over any other station. Wollal is accessible by fortnightly commercial steamers, sailing from Perth to Broome; and thence by chartered local small schooner or launch to the beach opposite Wollal. There is a government well 150 yards from the postoffice, with good water in abundance, and trees in whose midst camp could be established. Fuel is plentiful and natives can be employed to assist in the rough work, but there are no mechanics. The Lick Observatory definitely plans to dispatch a modest expedition to Wollal. No other expeditions to that point have been announced, but I hope that our expedition may have the pleasure of travel and life with other expeditions.

4. In southeastern Queensland the villages of *Coongoola*, *Goondiwindi*, *Stanthorpe* and *Casino* are well within the shadow path, and accessible with fair ease. Altho the promise of clear skies is fairly strong, yet September is a month of considerable rainfall. It must be remembered that the season corresponds to March in the northern hemisphere. Cold winds and dust storms are prevalent. It would seem that expeditions travelling from other continents could with wisdom continue on to Wollal rather than to establish themselves with greater ease in Queensland.

I have at hand a large amount of detailed information which would interest prospective eclipse observers and this information is available upon request. W. W. C.

The Total Solar Eclipse of September 10, 1923

This eclipse will be observable under very promising conditions from the vicinities of Lompoc and San Diego, California, from the large islands lying southerly from Santa Barbara and westerly from San Diego, from Lower California, and from the interior of western Mexico. Lompoc and San Diego are well within the shadow path, and the central line of the shadow crosses the island of San Clemente. San Nicholas Island lies a few miles southwest of the central line and Santa Rosa Island a few miles northeast of the line. Santa Catalina Island is easily accessible by commercial steamers from San Pedro. There are no regular steamers plying between the other islands and the California coast cities, but the services of small launches could readily be secured. The central line enters Lower California in Todos Santos Bay near Ensenada and passes east-southeasterly across Mexico, intersecting the shore of the Gulf of Mexico a short distance south of Tampico. The weather condi-